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1. Do you interpret the law governing CIA activities to require all policy guidance which directs the activities of the CIA to come from the National Security Council?

The National Security Act of 1947, as amended, provides in section 102(d) that the Agency shall carry out certain specific functions under the direction of the National Security Council. These include the Agency's duty to advise and make recommendations to the National Security Council on intelligence activities relating to the national security, and to correlate and evaluate intelligence relating to the national security and provide for appropriate dissemination of such intelligence within the Government. These are positive statutory duties, and the National Security Council directives relating thereto are concerned primarily with allocation of responsibilities. Various mechanisms (discussed in subsequent answers) have been established to implement the National Security Council directives and to provide for constant interchange and coordination between the elements of the Executive Branch concerned.

Section 102(d)(4) requires the Agency to perform, for the benefit of existing intelligence agencies, such additional services of common concern as the National Security Council determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally. Here again, National Security Council directives identify such functions of common concern and assign them to the Agency.

Section 102(d) (5) authorizes the Agency to perform such other functions and duties related to intelligence affecting the national security as the National Security Council may from time to time direct. Under this

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establishing the basic policy that the Agency should undertake covert action designed to combat Communism and promote the national interest of the United States. Under such policy guidance, specific projects are developed and submitted in detail to senior policy officers outside the Agency for approval. In the early 1950s this review was conducted by the Operations Coordinating Board under the National Security Council and later by the Psychological Strategy Board under the National Security Council. Under the last two Administrations, the review has been conducted by a committee composed of the Deputy Secretary of State for Political Affairs, the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, known as the 303 Committee.

CIA's activities, such as those with the student groups, were, therefore, undertaken under the broad charter of the National Security Council directives and the specific approval by the committees named above.

2. Where does the CIA get its day-by-day policy guidance to meet situations which arise and demand immediate attention, in the absence of an opportunity to present the problem to the National Security Council?

The National Security Council was established by statute as an advisor to the President. In addition to the President, it is composed of the Secretaries of State and Defense and the Director of the Office of Emergency Planning. Pursuant to directives issued by the National Security Council, policy coordination and approval of CIA's covert action activities rests with a special body now known as the 303 Committee. This group meets weekly and is chaired by the President's Special Assistant for National

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Deputy Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of AID, the Director of USIA, a Special Assistant to the President and the Director of Central Intelligence.

In addition to the SIG, there is an Interdepartmental Regional Group (IRG) which concerns itself with each of the five geographical areas corresponding to the regional bureaus of the Department of State. The regional Assistant Secretaries of State are the Executive Chairmen of the IRGs. The membership of each IRG includes designated representatives of the member agencies and departments of the SIG.

CIA also participates as an intelligence advisor in a variety of special interagency committees and task forces established on a regional or functional basis. In overseas areas, the CIA station chief is a member of the Mission Country Team.

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of the covert actions of the Soviet Union and other Communist-dominated countries to discredit and defeat the aims of the U.S. and other powers of the Free World, the National Security Council determined that, in the interest of world peace and U.S. national security, the overt foreign

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activities of the U.S. Government should be supplemented by covert operations. The National Security Council directed CIA to undertake these covert actions which would be designed to strengthen the orientation toward the U.S. of the peoples and the nations of the Free World accentuating, wherever possible, the identity of such peoples and the U.S. as well as favoring, where appropriate, those groups generally advocating or believing in the advancement of such mutual interests and to increase the capacity and will of such peoples and nations to resist international Communism.

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